



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2019

Equality and Diversity

[PoliticsHome](#) - Richard Atkins QC, Chair of the Bar has commented on the latest QC appointments.

He said: “Some trends from this announcement offer encouragement on diversity in the QC ranks. There is a greater success rate amongst women applicants (55 per cent) compared to men (42 per cent), but the fact remains under a quarter of applicants (23 per cent) were women. Almost one-hundred years after the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919, there is still a lot of progress to be made on securing gender parity in the QC ranks. In terms of BAME applicants, the success of those who declared themselves of ethnic origin is on a par with white candidates this year, although slightly down from last year.

“We need to look closely at what more can be done to encourage applications and the Bar Council will be doing more work on this topic this year. There is a need to encourage applications for Silk from a much wider talent pool. The Bar Council offers a Silk and Judicial Mentoring scheme, as do some of the specialist Bar Associations and circuits. We encourage quality candidates from all backgrounds to use this support when considering applying for silk.”

Brexit ‘Deadlock or breakthrough?’ mini-series

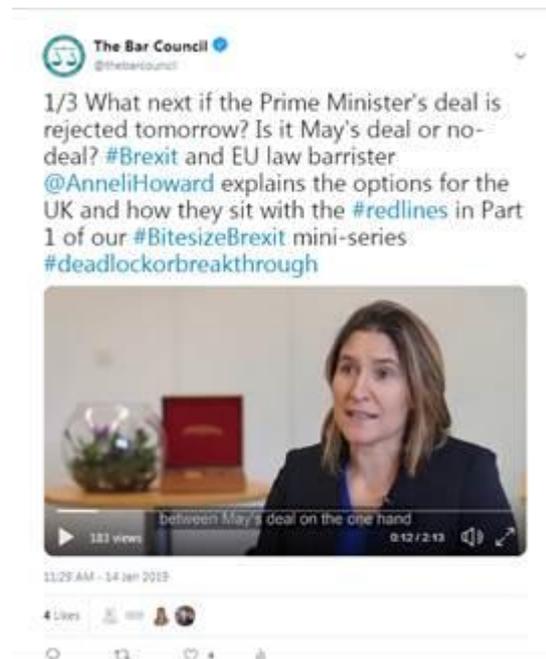
Jonathan Ames writes in today’s edition of The Brief - They may not have been able to afford Benedict Cumberbatch, and the dramatic fireworks are not likely to flare as brightly as they did in Channel 4’s [Brexit: The Uncivil War](#), but Bar leaders are doing their best to sate appetites for those who can't get enough of a certain issue.

The Bar Council of England and Wales has just released a three-part (that's called a mini-series in the biz, Ed) YouTube feature called "Bite size Brexit: Deadlock or Breakthrough?" which, to be honest, is almost a title worthy of the telly.

And while addicts had to sit through a full feature length session of 92 minutes for the Channel 4 version, the barristers have kept their entry to the Brexit canon mercifully tight, with each clip running to just two minutes and 20 seconds.

[Part one](#) of the series is an analysis of the options available to parliament if the prime minister's proposed deal is rejected; the [second part](#) delves into Theresa May's deal, claiming it is "in some ways an impressive achievement, despite the lack of agreement on trade in services"; and the [third part](#) assess the ups and downs of the UK leaving the bloc without a deal and relying on World Trade Organisation rules.

BAR COUNCIL TWEETS @ <https://twitter.com/thebarcouncil>





The Bar Council
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'What price justice?' will be the topic of Chair of the Bar, Richard Atkins QC's speech at Temple Church New Year Service on Wednesday 16 January @TempleChurchLDN templechurch.com



8:42 AM - 13 Jan 2019

6 Retweets 4 Likes



The Bar Council @thebarcouncil - Jan 11

YOUNG BARRISTERS: Don't miss out on this funding opportunity! Apply to the International Grant Programme by 14 Jan for the chance to get funding for an international legal event of your choice. More details at bit.ly/igp19
@YoungBarristers @TheCriminalBar @chancery_bar

CONSIDERING AN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL EXCHANGE?

Financial assistance is available for young Barristers who are members of supporting Specialist Bar Associations and Circuits.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Monday 14 January 2019

Monday 15 April 2019

Monday 9 September 2019

The International Professional and Legal Development Grant Programme



"The opportunity offered by the International Professional and Legal Grant Programme motivated me to write, submit and present a paper to an international audience of professionals and academics. I knew that the time I have spent researching my paper will pay dividends in future."

Constanze Bell, 2018 recipient of the International Grant (Northern Circuit)

For further information, email the Young Barristers' Committee
YBC@BarCouncil.org.uk

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